

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated January 11, 2002

Marked-up Claims 6, 7, 9 and 10

6. (Twice Amended) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said ligand comprises a positively charged group. [selected from the group consisting of the dimethylaminoethyl (DMAE) group, the diethylaminoethyl (DEAE) group, the trimethylaminoethyl (TMAE) group, the group $-R-CH(OH)-CH_2-N^+-(CH_3)_3$ (Q group), the guanidinium group and the imine group, such as polyethyleneimine (PEI)].

7. (Twice Amended) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said particles of adsorbent comprise an agarose matrix and a central core comprising quartz and dextran chains covalently coupled to said agarose matrix, on which is attached said positively charged group [and the Q group].

9. (Twice Amended) A protocol for producing viral particles which can be used for gene therapy, comprising the following steps (i) and (ii) :

- (i) producing a crude viral preparation, comprising:
 - (a) infecting or transfecting a suitable cell line with at least one viral vector [or recombinant viral vector] of interest;
 - (b) culturing said infected or transfected cell line under conditions which allow viral replication and the production of viral particles; and
 - (c) collecting the cells and/or the supernatant,
- (ii) purifying said crude viral preparation according to claim 1.

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10. (Twice Amended) The protocol as claimed in claim 9, comprising:
- (i) a cell rupture or lysis step after step (c), optionally followed by a step for degrading the nucleic acids,
 - (ii) a step for inactivating enveloped viruses, and/or
 - (iii) a packed-bed chromatography step [or] and a gel filtration chromatography step.

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendments is respectfully requested.

The claims have been amended to place them in better condition for U.S. patent practice.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the subject application, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

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